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VOL. XXIX. No. 66 THE CLEVELAND STAR, SHELBY, N. C. FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1921 \$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

VICTOR RUDASILL SHOOTS HIMSELF IN HEAD WITH 32 CALIBRE PISTOL

Supt. of Shelby Water and Light Plants and First Lieutenant in World War Takes His Own Life—Died At Rutherfordton Hospital

Victor Rudasill, first lieutenant in the World War and superintendent of the Shelby Water and Light plants died Thursday afternoon at 1:20 o'clock, according to a telephone message to The Star at 1:30. He remained conscious most of the two days and a half that intervened from the time he fired the fatal shot until he died. Funeral arrangements had not been made when The Star went to press. His prostrate wife and immediate members of his family were at his bedside when the end came.

Victor Rudasill, superintendent of the Shelby Water and Electric Plants and former first lieutenant in a Machine Gun Battalion of the 30th Division in the World War is lying at the point of death at the Rutherfordton hospital as a result of a pistol wound in his forehead, the wound being inflicted by himself at his home on East Graham street about 9:30 o'clock Mon. night. Reports from his bedside at the time The Star went to press were that he is still living and may recover because of his remarkable vitality and strength of endurance. Should he recover, however, it would be almost miraculous as the bullet from the 32 Colt's automatic entered his right temple, ranged around between the inner skull of his forehead and brain and spent its force as it bulged the surface of his left temple. As soon as a suitable conveyance could be secured he was rushed to the hospital at Rutherfordton in a Reo speedwagon where Major Norris performed the operation, removing broken pieces of skull and tissues. Before using the knife, Dr. Norris stated that without the operation he could not live and with the operation, there would be some chance for his recovery.

The tragedy has shocked the people of Shelby as nothing else in years. Victor has a legion of friends for he grew up in Shelby and was a manly, genial fellow, big hearted and friendly to all. He was thoroughly competent in his work, although his duties had been rather heavy of late on account of storms that damaged the light system and additions being made at the pump station.

Few people knew that he had been drinking of late for he always conducted himself in a becoming manner and never ventured in public while under the influence of liquor.

Many rumors have been afloat as the cause of his rash act, but the most plausible reason assigned is that he had been drinking some, and just before he went home, possibly took some mixed concoction which made him temporarily irresponsible. A few months ago the city administration notified him that unless he stopped drinking, he would have to resign from his position. He had apparently quit until Monday, when he took one drink which called for another and another. He might possibly have realized even in his condition the mistake that he had made and in a fit of despondency, fired the shot which penetrated his skull.

Victor was married a few months ago to Miss Bessie Caldwell, a popular young lady of Bessemer City, grand-daughter of J. Y. Hord of Waco. She is a graduate nurse and was practicing in Shelby when she and Mr. Rudasill were married. They went to housekeeping in the Brooks price house on East Graham street and seemed perfectly happy and contented. When Victor went home to supper that night his wife noticed that he was drinking and no doubt pleaded with him not to indulge further. He was a bit late coming home and knowing his condition, phoned Chief Hamrick to tell him to come on home, that she was alone. Chief found Victor at the City Hall, drinking, but not past going by any means and when the message was delivered to him he promptly left the City Hall and went home.

to disconnect the wires, went into the room where his wife was and undressed for bed. He told his wife that he was going to kill himself and before she could intervene, he had fired the shot through his forehead, picking up his shoe and used it as a vessel to catch the blood as it flowed profusely from his wound.

Mrs. Rudasill gave the alarm to her neighbors who gathered in, together with two physicians and two trained nurses. He talked some to the doctors and friends and hearing the moans of his prostrate wife, asked that she be given an opiate to quiet her.

All immediate relatives are at his bedside and inquiries are made each hour by telephone by his many interested friends in Shelby as to his condition. The sincere wish of all is that he may recover, but the nature of the wound is such that little hope is entertained even by the physicians in charge of the case at Rutherfordton.

As stated above, the tragedy has cast a gloom over the entire community. He was a young man of such bright future and splendid record of service to his country in the Mexican border trouble and recent world war. While on the Mexican border he was top Sergeant in Company G, 1st N. C. Regiment and as first lieutenant in 115 Machine Gun Battalion 30th Division, went through hard fighting in breaking the Hindenburg line. He escaped with light injury by gas in the attack.

Victor is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Audley Rudasill of Shelby.

MR. YOUNG TELLS HOW MARKET PLAN WORKS

Under that Co-Operative Plan the Seller Sets the Price—Cotton Farmers Need This

C. S. Young manager of A. Blanton Grocery Co. of Shelby, N. C. when asked what effect the co-operative marketing in California had on prices of dried fruits, raisins, beans, nuts, etc., stated that under the old way of marketing, merchandise could be bought at about one-fourth of what the co-operative associations charge today. He stated that they could always find distress goods or goods on which farmers were willing to take what was offered; but today when they ask for a price they are talking as if to one man and the price is always what the association makes. He stated further that the association was the controlling factor and ninety-two percent of the farmers are members and because for a period of fifteen years. That this is one of the important reasons why California is the rich state she is. That if the South was organized as well it would only be a short time until we would be the richest part of the best country in the world.

MANY FARM LOANS ARE BEING MADE

Rush Stroup, secretary-treasurer of the Cleveland County Farm Loan Association says many loans are being made to farmers of Cleveland. Thirty one applications have recently been approved, totaling \$55,000 and checks for the amounts of the various loans are coming in each day. There are two associations in Cleveland county, one at Shelby and one at Kings Mountain and it is estimated that since the Farm Loan act has been in operation \$200,000 has been loaned in Cleveland county. The first loans were made at a rate of five per cent, while loans that are now being made average about six per cent. Those who wish to get loans should make application now as it takes about four months to execute one.

Mrs. Ruth Christopher and children of Central, S. C. have arrived in Shelby to spend sometime with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John K. Wells.

Mrs. P. L. Hennessa spent last Friday in Gastonia, the guest of Mrs. E. B. Peck.

POSTMASTER IS PLACED IN JAIL

SIDNEY LEE OF BOILING SPRINGS IN TROUBLE

Charged With Shortage of \$3,000—Waves Examination and His Bond Is Fixed at \$2,000

Sidney Lee, postmaster since 1918 at Boiling Springs was brought to Shelby Tuesday night and placed in the hands of Deputy Marshall C. W. Russell charged with a shortage in his funds of about \$3,000. He waived examination before United States Commissioner W. R. Newton and was committed to jail in default of a \$2,000 bond. It is thought that his bond can be arranged and that he will be released from the Cleveland county jail where he is being held in custody. Postoffice Inspector B. B. Webb went to Boiling Springs the first of this week to audit his accounts and after finding the shortage, brought Mr. Lee to Shelby where he was detained at the hotel under guard until the Deputy Marshall arrived. While the shortage is charged to be about \$3,000, Mr. Lee contends that his books will show that he is short only \$1,800. It has been explained that Mr. Lee operated a gas filling station at Boiling Springs up until a few months ago and during that time he purchased gasoline, used the funds of the postoffice department by issuing money orders to pay his accounts, expecting to return the money when he had collected from his patrons. Upon the failure of his patrons to pay, he could not replace the government money which he contends he had used only temporarily.

Mr. Lee was reared by Hon. D. S. Lovelace, former member of the General Assembly and of the county board of commissioners. He has a wife and six children, the oldest of whom is 15 years of age. He has employed Attorney Clyde R. Hoey to represent him in the Federal court when his case comes to trial.

MR. McNEELY RETURNS FROM BUSINESS TRIP TO NEW YORK

Mr. J. C. McNeely of the McNeely Canning Co. of Shelby has returned from a business trip to New York where he purchased Fall and Winter fashions ready to wear. He reports that he found business conditions much better in New York and that the wholesale firms are coming to the front not only in New York, but all over the country. All hotels are crowded with buyers from all over the country and prices on the better merchandise are from 25 to 35 per cent lower than last year. Cheaper merchandise is much lower than this in comparison with last year. Mr. McNeely says he purchased a wide range of ladies ready to wear which is arriving daily and is being put on display.

SHOOTING AFFAIR ON TRAIN NEAR GROVER

A white man is shot in the mouth and a negro is shot through a finger as a result of a pistol duel between a white man and several negroes, all of whom were hoboes on a main line Southern freight train near Grover early Tuesday morning. The white man claims that the negro hoboes robbed him of his cash and his watch, whereupon the negroes claim that the white man was undertaking to hold them up. At any rate after the shooting, five negroes and the white man jumped off of the train and were placed under arrest by authorities and citizens of Grover. Two of the negroes undertook to make their escape but were arrested on the highway between Grover and Blacksburg. Their names could not be learned.

NOTICE TO LADY DELEGATES WOMAN'S MISSIONARY MEET

The annual meeting of the Womans Missionary Union of the Kings Mountain Association, will be held Thursday and Friday, Sept. 1 and 2, with the First Baptist church, Kings Mountain. All churches are invited to send delegates. Please notify Mrs. M. E. Herndon, chairman of hospitality committee how many will attend. MRS. JOHN WACASTER, Supt. MRS. GEO. E. LOVELL, Sec.

FOR SALE 54 ACRES LAND joins Ella Mill property, good house, very strong land, lot fine timber, ideal farm for trucking, or any kind of farming. S. S. Royster. 2t-19c

SOLDIER' GUARD CONCORD PLANTS

STRIKING OPERATIVES BEGIN WORK

It Now Looks As If The Textile Union In This Section of North Carolina Is Broken

Kannapolis, August 17.—Textile unionism sustained a shattering blow when more than 700 operatives, a third of the normal enrollment of employees, went in the giant towel mill of the Cannon Manufacturing company at 7 o'clock this morning. Their return to work was in defiance of their leaders' orders, and consequently, a virtual renouncement of the union.

Seventy members of the Winston-Salem military company stood guard as line after line of operatives entered the several gateways leading into the plant. Not so much as a shout came from the small band of "irreconcilables" which occupied a street corner and watched silently their neighbors return to work. The crowd of onlookers numbered barely 200, and it was the most orderly gathering of strikers which has assembled in the strike center since the first steps were taken towards the reopening of the mills.

"Every department of the mill is in operation," C. A. Cannon, a vice president of the company, announced to newspaper men. "I am perfectly satisfied with the response of the people to the offer of the company to resume operations. We expect the number of employes to increase tomorrow and on subsequent mornings."

Not Even Fist Fight

Although 3,500 people here went on strike 11 weeks ago today not so much as a fist fight has occurred as the direct outgrowth of difficulties. The Kannapolis people have been unusually orderly. Orders were issued last night by union leaders against the establishment of picketing lines and "anti-scabbing" demonstrations.

The Cannon Manufacturing company's plant here is the largest towel mill in the world and employs normally, 2,200 people. The giant plant is more than two miles in circumference and a dozen buildings occupy the property.

Troops were scattered over the property and silently patrolled the roadways around and through the plant. Every glance of the eye caught the dim figure of a khaki-clad trooper through the dense fog of the early morning with gun and bayonet silhouetted against a dull sky. On the roof of one of the tallest buildings near the plant were stationed a detachment of soldiers, on watch from a vantage point.

Everybody was kept on the move. Except at the street corner, crowds were not allowed to gather, and for that matter, no crowd attempted to assemble. Any one was at liberty to enter the mill, his entrance through the gates signifying that he proposed working.

Defeat Faces Union

The efforts of union leaders towards conciliatory measures is recognized generally as an admission of defeat. Mr. Barrett's statement of yesterday that he would be satisfied with any offer acceptable to workers was recognized as significant. The leaders are willing to accept any proposal short of a demand for the disbandment of the textile union, but the principal demand of mill owners means virtually the disbandment of the union.

Elliott Reunion Date

Editor Star: By some oversight, your heading to by recent notice of Elliott Re-union as the statement that the affair was to be on fourth Sunday in August. In body of my article, the date assigned was fourth Saturday in August. To be explicit, the Re-union is appointed for August 27, which is the fourth Saturday in the month. This is meant in no unkind spirit; but in order to keep history straight, please insert this notice, with apologies for encroachment on your space. M. L. White.

NOTICE! The policy holders of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Association will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, August 27, 1921 at 11 o'clock, a. m. J. S. WRAY, President.

SOCIETY and Club

Mrs. Batt to Paris

Mrs. Lillian Homesley Botts, who is spending a few days in the city with her mother and aunts, Mrs. Mary B. Homesley and Misses Sue and Gussie Boyd, at their home on West Morehead street, will leave Sunday night for New York and will sail the following week for a year's stay in Paris where she will study with Jean De Reszke.

Mrs. Gidney Charming Hostess to Missionary Society

At her attractive home on East Marion street, Mrs. Lamar Gidney entertained most charmingly at a social meeting the members of the Woman's Missionary society of Central Methodist church on Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. B. T. Morris of Gastonia district secretary of the missionary society being guest of honor. An interesting program had been arranged for the afternoon which was presided over by the president, Mrs. J. M. Keever, the devotional part of which was conducted by Rev. J. Ed Thompson, father of the hostess. Mrs. Morris then made an interesting talk on the missionary work in this district and a delightful musical program was rendered by Miss Myrtle Warren of Gastonia, Mesdames Tom Babington and P. L. Hennessa.

Mrs. Z. J. Thompson Beautiful Reception Hostess for Kinwomen

The paramount social event of the week was the large floating reception Tuesday afternoon when Mrs. Z. J. Thompson entertained in honor of her kinwomen, Mrs. A. C. Durham, Bellingham, Washington, Mrs. C. A. Thompson of Hugo, Okla, Miss Marie Lineberger of this place and Mrs. J. W. Austin of Bellingham, Wash. The lower floor of the handsome Thompson home on North Morgan street was thrown ensuite and beautifully arranged for entertaining, and the decorations planned with artistic skill transformed the home into a place of rare loveliness suitable for this brilliant event. Beautiful roses and flowers of many varieties adorned the rooms in lavish profusion.

Words of welcome were spoken at the front door by Mesdames Carl Thompson and J. Heyward Hull and the guests were ushered into the parlor where the receiving line was stationed, consisting of the hostess, her four charming guests of honor, and Mrs. W. H. Thompson and sister, Mrs. Martha Porter of Charlotte. Stationed at the dining room door and inviting the guests from parlor into the dining room was Mrs. Rush Thompson.

In here the dining table was overlaid in an exquisite lace, the central decoration being a silver basket filled with white clematis and feathery ferns. And the handsome chandeliers in here, as well as elsewhere in the house were shaded in lovely rose colored shades. Receiving in here were Mrs. John Black and Miss Lilla Hull and serving a delicious ice course and mints were Misses Marion Hull and Mary Elizabeth Black.

Presiding over the attractive punch table in the spacious living room were Misses Mildred Hull, Fay Durham of Washington and Mrs. Frank Hull of Charleston, West Va.

During the reception hours, from 4:30 to 6:30 o'clock delightful music as furnished by Mrs. W. C. Harris and Miss Mayme Roberts.

STROUP FAMILY HAD FAMILY REUNION SUNDAY

The Stroup family had a family reunion at J. W. Stroup's near the old home-place at Waco Sunday at which all of the Stroup children and grand-children were present except J. C. Stroup from Tennessee. One son present living farthest away was Rev. Lee Stroup who is preaching at South Pittsburg, Tenn. The reunion was greatly enjoyed by the thirty four present and most bountiful dinner was served.

Canning outfits, cans and supplies of all kinds at Campbell's. Save the fruit and vegetables.

DR. POE EXPLAINS 25 CENTS BALE TAX

CLEVELAND CAN BENEFIT FROM FUND

Money Is Not Spent But Is a Constantly Revolving Loan Fund To Guarantee Receipts

Dropping into The Star office just before leaving Shelby, Dr. Clarence Poe who spoke in Shelby Monday on the co-operative marketing of cotton said:

"You have one of the finest counties in the whole South and I don't know when I have ever visited any other county that so much exceeded my expectations of it. I was also very much pleased at the interest shown in the meeting Monday and feel sure that Cleveland will not fall behind the other progressive counties in the State in this important matter of a more business like method of cotton marketing.

"Two people before the speaking mentioned to me two matters that they wished me to discuss in my speech and I regret that as they were not topics that I had not been discussing in former speeches that I forgot to bring them into my address Monday. One matter is that of the 25 cents per bale collected for warehouse guarantee and loan fund. Some people seem to have the idea that this is a tax and that the money is spent in Raleigh or somewhere like a tax. This isn't correct at all. The money is kept busy building warehouses and as soon as it helps get warehouses built and going, it is then used to build another warehouse and so on indefinitely. This fund is also used as a guarantee fund to insure the safety of all the millions of dollars worth of state warehouse receipts that will be issued by the state.

"This, of course, has nothing to do with the co-operative marketing system, but since the question was asked, I am glad to give this explanation.

"This fund is never to be spent, but kept busy perpetually as a constantly revolving loan fund for building warehouses and providing grading service by prompting gradual and orderly selling of cotton and saving county damage. It will no doubt so help prices as to return the farmer many times the initial cost and Cleveland county has only to get in line and take its turn in order to get a full share of the benefits for herself.

Church and Sunday School

At The First Baptist Church

The pastor, Dr. J. M. Kester, is on his vacation with his wife visiting her relatives in Massachusetts. He is expected back to fill his pulpit on the fourth Sunday. The pulpit will be filled next Sunday morning by Rev. W. E. Goode, the pastor of the First Baptist church of Roxboro, N. C. Rev. Mr. Goode is a native of Cleveland county being a son of Rev. J. M. Goode of Boiling Springs. The young Rev. Goode is a fine preacher and is said to be one of the best pastors of Eastern Carolina. It is hoped that he will have a large audience for the service at the 11 o'clock hour.

Interest in the Sunday School work continues to increase. On last Sunday morning there were 427 present which represents an increase over every Sunday for this month. It is not yet impossible to reach the figure of 600 which the superintendent, J. J. Lattimer has set for his goal for this month. A cordial invitation is extended to all to be present at the services of the church, strangers and visitors especially invited.

Clarence Poe For Governor

Yorkville Enquirer: Clarence Poe is again being prominently mentioned for the governorship of North Carolina. He does not want the place, because he is in other work that he likes better and in which he thinks he can be more useful to the people of North Carolina and the South. As The Yorkville Enquirer sees it, however, Poe should be governor. He is one of the best men in the state for the place, and he can fill the position without the least deduction from his usefulness along other lines.

Federal land bank abstracts made by O. M. Suttle, approved abstractor. adv. 2t-19c